Workforce in SAIL

1274. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of workforce in SAIL is surplus;

(b) if so, what percentage of the existing workforce with the integrated steel plants in the country (plant-wise) is surplus and what is the estimated annual expenditure being incurred on the surplus workforce;

(c) what is the yardstick to determine the workforce requied in the steel plants and whether Government have made any review to know how the workforce in the steel plants was recruited during the past three years making it surplus against the requirement, if so what is the result thereof; and

(d) the manner in which the surplus workforce is proposed to be deployed?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) There is some surplus workforce in SAIL.

(b) In-house studies by the Industrial Engineering Department indicate a rough estimate of the present surplus workforce and exptnditure on it during 1987-88 as:—

	Percentage of surplus workforce	Expenditure in 1987-88 (Rs. in crores)
Bhilai Steel Plant	4	10.11
Durgapur Steel Plant	5	6.54
Rourkela Steel Plant	2	2 55
Bokaro Steel Plant	3	9.96
IISCO	8	8 18

(c) A preliminary assessment has been done of the worksforce required in Steel plants through in-house Industrial Engineering Department's studies. This has been done with reference to existing assets, but has assumed some improvement in work practices. Government have taken up the question of levels of manning in the steel plants and SAIL have attempted to regulate recruitment in the past three years. During this period the surpluses have in fact been reduced.

(d) After accounting for recruitments the surplus manpower will be retrained and redeployed to new areas of work to meet the requirements of improved technological practices.

Editing of Interviews

1275. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in Indian Express of 10th June, 1988 to the effect that Lt. General M. Mayadas protested the way in which his views have been presented on the first part of Doordarshan's two-part programme on Bofors gun stating that the editing of his 32 minutes interview to 4 minutes was done in such a way that his views on how the four guns compared were distored, if so what are the reasons therefore; and

(b) whether Doordarshan would be asked to show the edited version to the person whose views were to be telecast for his approval?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir. In a two-part 'Aajkal' programme on the Bofors Gun Issue produced by M/s. Communications Group. Delhi, interviews of several persons was recorded. One of the persons interviewed was Lt Gen. Mayadas. Keeping in view the main thrust of the programme. i.e. selection of the gun, about 4 minutes' statement of Gen. Mayadas was used in the programme. It was made amply clear by the producers of the programme before and after the recording that only 4-5 minutes of his statements

would be used in the programme. In this programme interviews, of six other persons were recorded for longer duration but much lesser footage was used. However particular care is taken that while editing the programmes the statements made by the interviewee are not distorted and the gist of what the interviewee intended to say is faithfully conveyed. Regarding General Mayadas's views on the choice of the gun which was the main thrust of the first part of the programme his views were fully telecast.

(b) No, Sir. It is not the general practice followed by Doordarshan.

Production of Vanaspati

1276. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of Vanaspati is on a declining trend;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what corrective action is being taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) There was a decline in the production of vanaspati during the months of April and May. However, the production has gone up in the month of June as shown below:

Month, 1988	*Production* (in tonnes)
February . . .	81,554
March	80,654
April	73,69
May	75,210
June	82,005

(b) and (c) One of the main reasons for the decline in production is the shortage of tinplates for packing of vanaspati. As a remedial measure, permission is being regularly granted for the use of non-ISI thoroughly cleaned second hand tin containers for packing of vanaspati. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has also been asked to ensure expeditious clearance of pending applications for the manufacture of pouches for packing of vanaspati.

1277. [Tranferred to the 9th August, 1988.]

Introduction of mid-day programme

1278. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce one hour mid-day programme on Doordarshan for housewives and retired persons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to commence afternoon transmission from 1345 hrs. to 1445 hrs. on Mondays to Fridays. The programmes to be included in this transmission will be a mix of entertainment, utility and informative etc.

Setting up of district Centres to implement scheme for Handicapped

1279. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up district Rehabilitation Centre to implement scheme to provide comprehensive and coordinated services to Handicapped persons living in rural areas; and

(b) if so how many centres have been set up so far State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) and (b) The District Rehabilitation Centre Scheme has